

Amateur Radio Newsline #940 19 Aug 1995

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BBS Networks: RIME - RO mail to Steve Coletti, ->35
 Others - Steve Coletti (within the conference)
 Online Services: America Online - tstader@aol.com (Terry Stader, Sysop)
 or wd0ako@rrnet.com (Dale Cary)
 Compuserv, Delphi, Genie - wd0ako@rrnet.com
 Usenet: rec.radio.info - david@stat.com (David Dodell, Moderator)
 File Requests: FidoNet users can Freq the latest edition of NEWSLINE
 from Joe Brown, KB2NBN 1:2625/111
 FTP to oak.oakland.edu - wylz@neu.edu (Scott Erlich,
 Boston ARC - libraian)
 Internet E-Mail: Send mail to listserv@netcom.com with the
 following commands in the body of the message
 (the subject is ignored)
 To subscribe: subscribe newslines-list
 To unsubscribe: unsubscribe newslines-list
 For more information: help
 World Wide Web: <http://www.acs.ncsu.edu/HamRadio/news.html>

Manual mailing lists are also maintained by bigsteve@dorsai.org for individual subscribers and by wd0ako@rrnet.com for BBS's and radio clubs that redistribute Newsline.

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NEWSLINE RADIO - CBBS EDITION #940 - POSTED 08/19/95

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The following is late news about Amateur Radio for Radio Amateurs as prepared from NEWSLINE RADIO scripts by the staff of the AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, INC. -- formerly the WESTLINK RADIO NETWORK. Amateur Radio Newsline is a audio news service distributed via telephone.

This hardcopy version is produced by Dale Cary - WD0AKO from scripts provided to him weekly by Newsline. It is then distributed to on-line services, bbs networks and internet user jointly by Dale Cary and Steve Coletti.

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The audio version of Newsline can be recorded from one of the currently operating lines listed below. This list is kept as accurate as possible. If any changes are not listed, please contact Dale Cary - WD0AKO at the above listed addresses.

Audio Version of Newsline

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Los Angeles.....	(213) 462-0008
Los Angeles (Instant Update Line).....	(805) 296-2407
Seattle.....	(206) 368-3969
Seattle.....	(206) 281-8455
Tacoma.....	(206) 927-7373

Louisville..... (502) 894-8559
Dayton..... (513) 275-9991
Chicago..... (708) 289-0423
New York City..... (718) 284-0752
Melbourne, FL..... (407) 768-7447

Electronic Hardcopy Version of Newsline

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GEnie..... m345;1
GEnie..... m345;3
Dallas Remote Imaging BBS (DRIG)..... (214) 492-7573
In bulletin number 36
The Midwest Connection BBS..... (701) 239-2440
In bulletin number 6 of the ham radio conference
America Online.....
Ham Radio forum/Ham Radio General File Library
Delphi.....
In the ham radio conference
CompuServe/HamNet..... HamNet Library 0
Internet.....In the rec.radio.info newsgroup
Internet FTP: oak.oakland.edu.....
In archive: pub/hamradio/docs/newsline
Local BBS's.....In the Ham Radio conferences on
Fidonet, RIME, Intellec, I-Link, AR-Net and Fringenet.

For the latest breaking info call the Instant Update Line listed above. To provide information please call (805) 296-7180. This line answers automatically and will accept up to 30 minutes of material.

Check with your local amateur radio club to see if NEWSLINE can be heard weekly on the air in your area.

Articles may be reproduced if printed in their entirety and credit is given to AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE as being the source.

For further information about the AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, please write to us with an SASE at

NEWSLINE
c/o Andy Jarema-N6TCQ
P.O.Box 660937
Arcadia, CA
91066

Thank You,

NEWSLINE

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Some of the hams of NEWSLINE RADIO...

WA6ITF WB6MQV WB6FDF K6DUE W6RCL N6AHU N6AWE N6TCQ K6PGX N6PNY
KU8R N8DTN W9JUV KC9RP K9XI KB4KCH KC5UD KC0HF G8AUU WD0AKO DJ0QN
and many others in the United States and around the globe!!!

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[940]

(* * * * C L O S E D C I R C U I T A D V I S O R Y * * * *)

(* * *

(* EMERGENCY FUNDING *

(* *

(* The following is an important closed circuit advisory. *

(* Attention all bulletin stations. *

(* An update on the financial health of Newsline. As *

(* reported last week, enough funding arrived to permit *

(* payment of all outstanding bills for the June to July *

(* period. That means there is still only about \$500 in the *

(* account with over a \$1000 in invoices expected before the *

(* end of August, another \$1000 in September, and the same *

(* each month. *

(* The bottom line is that this is still an emergency *

(* situation. We are still existing hand to mouth and if the *

(* funds to pay the projected August operating expenses is not *

(* found quickly, we can tell you that Newsline will disappear *

(* by mid September. This, because the phone company will *

(* turn off our service. Without telephones there is no *

(* Newsline. *

(* As we have said many times, the decision whether *

(* Newsline stays or goes is yours. If you want this service *

(* to continue, we will need your financial support. The *

(* address for the Newsline Support Fund: *

(* *

(* NEWSLINE *

(* P.O.Box 660937 *

(* Arcadia, California *

(* 91066 *

(* *

(* Your assistance is needed immediately. We thank you all *

(* for your ongoing generosity and support. Again, and as *

(* always, we thank you. This ends the closed circuit with *

(* Newsline report number 940 for release on Friday, August *
(* 18th, 1995 to follow. *
(* *
(* *

The following is a QST

Japan finally acts to control the rise in its currency and maybe the price of your next ham station. Also, one of the biggest names in amateur repeater control technology shuts its doors. We'll have a Special Report. These stories and more on Newsline report number 940 coming your way right now!

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JAPAN TRIES TO CONTROL YEN

Japan says that it is going to try to stop the rising cost of goods that it exports by placing several controls on its currency. This is good news for hams who have been contemplating the purchase of new equipment but have been waiting for prices to stabilize.

Among the measures announced by Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura are the removal of limits on insurance companies' participation in syndicated loans and on their foreign currency loans. Also included in the action are other fiscal incentives aimed at stimulating greater domestic investment.

But international monetary analysts are still pessimistic that much can be done to reverse the upward spiral of the Yen and the devaluation of the dollar. They say that the measures were a positive step, but will probably not be enough to change the basic causes of the yen's rise in value versus other currencies. The yen's escalation the past two years has taken a major toll on Japan's corporate profits and added to fears that nations sluggish economy may soon slip back into recession. It's also the cause of an estimated 18% price increase on almost all goods including ham radio equipment, imported from Japan since January 1st of this year.

Right now the exchange rate is hovering around 90 Yen to the dollar. That's down about 8 yen since January when it was 82. But don't look for prices on goods from Japan and other Pacific Rim nations to fall. There is a lot of catching up to do on profits that were lost before any price reductions begin. In fact more increases are expected before years end.

The bottom line. As expensive it is, that new radio you want might be a better bargain now that under the Christmas Tree in December. Some say an estimated 10% better bargain now, than at the end of 1995.

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ACC - Rest In Peace

If you hear synthesized speech on a repeater in your city, chances are, that speech is coming from a repeater controller made by Advanced Computer Controls. As a small, California based firm, ACC grew to be the biggest name in repeater control technology during the mid 1980's. The company pioneered so-called talking controllers with synthesized speech and digital voice recorders. Today, there are an estimated 2,000 ACC controllers used on amateur repeaters across the U.S. But ACC's legacy has come to an end. The victim of emerging technologies and high production costs. The company's demise leaves ACC controller owners in a precarious position.

When ACC introduced the RC-850 repeater controller in the early 1980's, no other controller approached the 850's features and capabilities. The 850's skyrocketing sales drove ACC into the national spotlight as the undisputed leader in repeater control technology. The company has even been compared to IBM for its innovation. In the mid 1980's, ACC expanded its product line by introducing lower priced controllers. At one point, ACC's market share was estimated at 90%. As the controller market continued to expand, however, newer technologies allowed competitors to produce controllers at lower cost. By the late 1980's, sales of ACC products which were built using early 80's technology were dropping. ACC had begun a slow tailspin, one from which it would never recover. In the last 3 years, ACC's share of the market has been estimated at only about 10%. On July 25th, ACC's dynasty ended when owner Ed Ingber, WA6AXX, sold most of his company's holdings to Link Communications in Sydney, Montana. Allan Overcast, KF7FW, owns Link Communications. Overcast bought the source code, vocabulary, parts and other proprietary information that make up the brains of ACC controllers.

"What we are going to do with it, we haven't yet totally decided. We are defiantly interested in using the voice library with our control systems and continuing to support some of the ACC products. As much on businessly possible for us. The biggest problem with the ACC product was it was designed in the early 80's and you can no longer get parts for it." Allan Overcast, KF7FW.

That's bad news for current ACC controller owners. When certain parts fail, Overcast says there is little chance replacements can be found. Link Communications is not providing technical support for ACC controllers, though Overcast says he will try to help owners in the search for parts. Overcast's company typifies what happened to ACC. Link Communications opened

in 1989, unveiling its own controller, offering features ACC's high-end products could not match.

"We came out in 1989 with a controller that did more and was quite a bit lower cost. ACC did a bad thing. They had a good controller, but didn't continue to refine it and keep it current with technologies and with amateur radio. We continually, like the controller that we designed in 1989 was redesigned in 1993 to bring it up to current technologies to keep the controller current." Overcast

Overcast says his RLC controllers, which are designed with the latest technology available, may include some features previously found in ACC products. In the meantime, Overcast and other repeater owners agree that an era in repeater control technology has ended.

"ACC set the standard. Just like IBM set the standard for the coin word you have heard 'IBM compatible'. Everybody tries to be like IBM. While in the controller market, everybody tries to be like ACC." Overcast

With the thousands of ACC repeater controllers still on the air, Overcast believes his already strong market share will grow even more. Sooner or later, he says, technology will fail. And when ACC controller owners find that parts are no longer available for their systems, Overcast says their only choice will be to upgrade from what used to be state of the art technology.

ACC had been advertising a new software release, Version 6, promising control capability using a personal computer. But Overcast says Version 6 has been shelved and will probably never be offered.

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INTERNATIONAL LICENSE UPDATE

The Federal Communications Commission has assigned RM-8677 to an ARRL petition for rule making to implement U.S. participation in an International Amateur Radio Permit. A permit covering countries in the Western Hemisphere.

As previously reported, such a permit will allow temporary operation in any other country in the Americas that has signed the agreement. The only other requirement being that a person has to be a licensed ham in his or her home country.

The comment cutoff deadline on this matter is August 31st and the reply comment deadline is set for September 30th.

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KV4FZ LICENSE HEARING

On the legal front, Herbert L. Schoenbohm, KV4FZ is waiting to hear weather or not the FCC will renew his ham radio license. This following an August 8th hearing in Washington, DC.

The FCC took the unusual step of designating Schoenbohm's license renewal request for public hearing following complaints. This, following the loss of his appeal of a 1992 conviction in federal district court.

The FCC says that Schoenbohms conviction is relevant to evaluating the likelihood that he will comply with the Commissions rules as a licensee in the Amateur service. Issues addressed at the hearing included Schoenbohm's qualification to renew his license and whether or not such a renewal will serve the public interest, convenience and necessity. A final decision in this matter is probably three to six months away.

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KD5SL - PACKET PIONEER: SK

Some sad news. Word that one of the nations best known packet radio and repeater pioneers has passed away. Seventy-four year old Shelton Mc Anelly, KD5SL became a silent key on August 5th. Charlie Detrich KF5EK reports from Baton Rouge on the passing of a ham radio legend.

Shelton B. Mc Anelly, KD5SL, became a silent key Saturday, August 5th at age 74 apparently from heart failure. Shelton was discovered at his home by fellow hams KC5BMA and N5DXT and family member when for the first time in 10 years when he failed to check into a Sunday evening net.

KD5SL who was the ARRL Delta Division State Governmental Liaison, operated one of the nations largest HF BBS gateways as part of the national packet system. He was an original member of the HF skip net group and was one of the first BBS sysops to be granted unattended status by the FCC. Shelton was the founder and current President of the Radio Amateurs Service Club of Baton Rouge, the founder of the Baton Rouge Radio Society, a past president of the Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club, and one of amateur radios greatest proponents. KD5SL received national, state and local recognition for his contributions and dedications to his community and ham radio.

Mc Anelly who was a Louisiana native served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, held a chemical engineering degree and was a retired patent attorney.

He is survived by 3 daughters, 2 sons, 16 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. At the time of his death, Shelton Mc Anelly,

KD5SL, was in his ham shack surrounded by the world he loved,
Amateur Radio.

Shelton Mc Anelly, KD5SL was laid to rest in his hometown of
Franklin, Louisiana. His contributions to ham radio will live on
for years to come.

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CONGRESSIONAL VISITATION

The FCC has come under direct congressional scrutiny. House
Republicans bent on shrinking the FCC spent much of Monday, July
10th touring the agency and apparently came away with a newfound
appreciation of the regulatory body.

Eight members of the House telecommunications subcommittee
chaired by Texas Republican Jack Fields took the FCC tour. Fields
has scheduled hearings for later this summer on plans to radically
downsize the agency that regulates broadcasters, cable TV
operators and telephone companies.

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AIRWAVES ON WYPL

WYPL Radio, 89.3 FM in Memphis, Tennessee launched its new
Airwaves program on August the 2nd. Airing at 7:30 pm, the hour
long hobby radio oriented program features new product reviews,
interviews, a DX report, a calender of events, radio nostalgia,
and, oh yes, Newsline.

If a public radio station in your area would like to audition
the show for possible local airing in your community, please
contact Mike Porter at WYPL FM. His phone number is area code
(901) 725-8833.

Airwaves production costs are funded in part by the Corporation
for Public Broadcasting. The show is being made available free of
charge to any station by WYPL in cooperation with the Memphis
Public library.

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CBS.AOL

The CBS Network has announced that it is creating an
interactive web site on America Online. The Hollywood
Reporter says that the AOL site will be in addition to "CBS
on Prodigy", the first broadcast network site online.

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CINCI CELEBRATION

Hams in the area around Cincinnati Ohio area will be active from October 11th to the 15th for the Tall Stacks celebration. Station K8SCH/TS will operate all bands and modes. A special QSL will be available for those making contact with K8SCH during the event. The Tall Stacks commemorates the historic importance of river commerce to the greater Cincinnati area.

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ARIANE LAUNCH

Western Europe's 76th Ariane rocket placed a U.S. telecommunications satellite in orbit on Thursday, August the 3rd after a launch from French Guiana. The Ariane 44L rocket was equipped with two liquid strap-on boosters. It blasted off at 6:58 pm EDT from the European Space Agency launch center in Kourou on the northeast coast of South America. Twenty-one minutes after lift-off, the booster released PanAmSat-4, a 6,800 pound satellite into a transfer orbit for the Greenwich, Connecticut-based satellite operator PanAmSat. The satellite will be lifted in a geostationary orbit by an on-board propulsion system and is designed to operate for 15 years.

Arianespace, the Paris-based company that markets and launches satellites using ESA built Ariane rockets. An Ariane will carry the Phase 3D ham satellite into space in 1996.

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SEDSAT HELP WANTED

Also, Dennis Wingo, KD4ETA, the SEDSAT 1 project manager says he is still looking for two graduate students who would be willing to attend the University of Alabama in Huntsville this year and work on SEDSAT. KD4ETA says that he wants ECE or software engineering students to work with us. Contact Dennis via e-mail to kd4eta@amsat.org.

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DX

In DX, we have a number of items this week. First is word that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has been added to the ARRL DXCC Countries List following receipt of documentation for the P5/0H2AM operation in May of this year. QSL cards for this new country will not be accepted until October 1, 1995, and the P5/0H2AM is the only operation currently accepted for credit. Another operation by Finnish operators is tentatively planned for the fall. P5/0H2AM is a demonstration operation that made about 20 contacts.

In another matter, the ARRL DX Advisory Committee has voted

15 to 1 to suspend further study of the status of Aruba until the Netherlands and Aruba have announced a change the current move toward independence for Aruba originally slated for 1996.

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DX-HEARD

Also, more information on the upcoming Heard Island DXpedition. Ralph Fedor, K0IR, the expedition organizer, says that he has been in regular telephone contact with the charter company and skipper of the ship that will carry the expedition to Heard. Ralph says that all remains on schedule for a November 1st departure from Fremantle in Western Australia. The expected arrival date at Heard remains November 12th. The group will set up as fast as weather allows and plans on remaining on the island until December 1st. If all goes as planned, the operators hope to be back in Australia by December the 14th.

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MIGHTY MO

A battleship that helped to win World War II is being heard from again, but this time on the ham bands.

The big guns of the "Mighty MO" will sound again, only this time they will be "Big Gun" transmitters of an amateur radio station set up to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the end of World War II. A group of Seattle area amateurs will be manning a special events station on the USS Missouri during the celebration of the signing of the peace treaty with Japan. Tom Sanders, W6QJI, is heading up the project:

"We first got this idea in the fall of 1993. We were feeling good about the fact that we had pulled off a couple years earlier a special event on the December 7th anniversary and somebody suggested, 'Hey why don't we do the 50th for the end of the war on the Missouri!'. That is where it started.

We got our written authorization from the navy to go ahead with the project in June of '94 and put together the organization. And it is rolling! What we are going to do is go onboard on the 25th of August and install and do some training. We will start operations on the evening of August 31st and operate through, probably noon or so on September the 2nd." Tom Sanders, W6QJI.

The special events station isn't the only activity on the ship that hams will be involved in. Tom says there will be much more than that:

"We also have a fourth HF rig down on the deck with a public display for the interaction with the public while they are onboard. We expect to have good TV coverage. We will also be providing communications for the coordination of the media for that weekend.

And, as perhaps you know already, about the commemorative ceremony that weekend. It's not part of our operation, but that will attract somewhere around 10,000 visitors and dignitaries from Washington and from all of the governments that were signatory to the original document on the Missouri." Sanders

The group is still waiting for the assignment of the call sign that will be used. Amateurs should look for the station at about 35 kilohertz from the bottom edge of each band segment, both voice and cw. QSL information will be given over the air, and a commemorative certificate will be issued to amateurs working the station.

The USS Missouri is berthed at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, in Bremerton, Washington. Visitors are welcome to see the station during its operation. For more information, contact Tom Sanders via the internet, at ww2end@aol.com.

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And for this week, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline. You can write to us at:

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Arcadia, California
91066

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